

Message Text

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USMISSION NATO

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DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2585

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJ: DENKTASH ON TERRITORIAL SETTLEMENT

1. SPEAKING TO TURK CYPRIOT REPORTERS AUGUST 20, "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH REAFFIRMED COMMITMENT TO DISCUSS TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS IN NEW YORK AND SAID THAT BOTH SIDES WERE PREPARING "ONE OR MORE MAPS" AS A BASIS FOR DISCUSSION. DENKTASH ALSO REITERATED THAT TERRITORIAL QUESTION COULD NOT BE DISCUSSED IN TERMS OF PERCENTAGES AND POINTED OUT TMT, IN DEVELOPING TURKISH POSITION, FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS HAD TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT: 1) TFSC "SELF-SUFFICIENCY", 2) SECURITY OF LIFE AND PROPERTY; 3) MILITARILY DEFENSIBLE LINES; 4) TURKISH LAND OWNERSHIP. IN THIS REGARD, DENKTASH REPEATED NOW STANDARD TURKISH POSITION THAT TURKS OWNED 30 PER CENT OF LAND AS WELL AS PROPORTIONAL SHARE OF PUBLIC LAND.

2. DENKTASH ALSO SAID IT WAS NOT YET POSSIBLE TO SAY WHAT THE RESULT OF ALL THESE CONSIDERATIONS WOULD BE BUT THAT
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PREPARATIONS WERE CONTINUING AND, BEFORE GOING TO NEW YORK,

A COMMON POSITION WOULD BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATION WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3. COMMENT: A. DENKTASH SEEMS INTENT ON CARRYING THROUGH ON HIS COMMITMENT TO DISCUSS TERRITORY IN NEW YORK. THIS IS REASSURING AND REINFORCES IMPRESSION THAT ANKARA WANTS TO USE DENKTASH AS PROXY TO EXPLORE TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS WHICH IT IS UNABLE TO ADDRESS DIRECTLY WHILE ARMS EMBARGO REMAINS IN EFFECT. B. ON LESS HOPEFUL SIDE, DENKTASH IS ACUTELY AWARE OF POLITICAL RISKS OF DISCUSSING TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS IN ABSENCE OF CLEAR SUPPORT FROM ANKARA. FACT THAT IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY SEE NO NEED FOR TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENTS AND THAT ANTI-DENKTASH OPPOSITION PARTY, WHICH LOOKING FOR ISSUES IS NOW BEING FORMED WILL FURTHER IMPEL DENKTASH TO ADOPT VERY CAUTIOUS APPROACH IN NEW YORK. C. IN SHORT, PRESENT OUTLOOK IS FOR TOUGH POSITION ON TERRITORY FROM DENKTASH IN NEW YORK, DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT ON PART OF GREEKS, AND MUCH HARD BARGAINING IN WEEKS AHEAD. OPENING TURKISH POSITION WHICH FALLS TOO FAR SHORT OF GREEK EXPECTATIONS WILL UNDERCUT MODERATES AND UNDERMINE NEW WILLINGNEW ON GREEK SIDE TO CONSIDER REALISTIC SOLUTION BASED ON BIREGIONAL FEDERATION. END COMMENT.
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